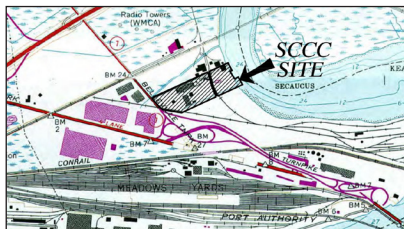


# Update on Cleanup Activities at the Standard Chlorine Chemical Company Superfund Site Kearny, New Jersey

Community Update

AUGUST 2015



*Site Location: 1025-1035 Belleville Turnpike, Kearny, Hudson County, New Jersey, 07032*

**If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact:**

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If you would like information on general environmental concerns or the federal Superfund hazardous waste program, have concerns or complaints about the Superfund program, or if you seek assistance in resolving site-specific issues that were not fully addressed by the EPA, please contact:

George Zachos  
EPA Regional Public Liaison  
(732) 321-6621  
[zachos.george@epa.gov](mailto:zachos.george@epa.gov)

Or toll free at (888) 283-7626



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is conducting an environmental cleanup at the Standard Chlorine Chemical Company Superfund Site in Kearny, NJ. This update has been prepared to inform the community, local officials and other interested parties of the status of activities at the Standard Chlorine site.

## Site Overview:

The 25-acre site is located in a heavily industrialized area along the Hackensack River. From the early 1900s to the 1990s, several chemical manufacturing and processing activities took place on the site. These activities included the manufacture of products from naphthalene, moth balls, drain cleaner, deodorizers, and lead-acid batteries, among other things. In the past, contamination came from several sources, including two lagoons located on the eastern portion of the site as well as damaged tanks and containers containing pollutants. Several abandoned buildings in various states of disrepair were also located on the property.

## Cleanup Progress:

The EPA and the potentially responsible parties entered into an agreement in May 2013 that defined the scope of work for a Remedial Investigation and Focused Feasibility Study (RI/FFS) of the site. The purpose of the RI/FFS is to investigate the nature and extent of contamination at the site in order to develop and evaluate potential cleanup options.

Since issuance of the previous Community Update in July 2014, significant progress has been made on completing the tasks outlined in the agreement, including submittal of two major reports, a Remedial Investigation Report and a Focused Feasibility Study. The following provides more detail on the RI/FFS being conducted:

- Site Characterization Summary Report (March 2013). This report includes a compilation of all previous investigation data acquired at the site.
- RI/FFS Work Plan (September 2013). The work plan serves as a project planning document outlining and describing activities to be conducted under the requirements of the agreement. The implementation of the work plan began in October 2013.
- Community Involvement Plan (February 2014). This plan outlines how the community can be actively involved in the cleanup process and is intended to support two-way communication between the EPA and the community.

- Potential cleanup technologies identified and contamination treatability studies have been performed.
- Baseline Risk Assessment and Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment (April – May 2014). The goal of these assessments is to identify potential risks to human health and ecological receptors.
- Remedial Investigation Report (July 2015) has been submitted to the EPA for review. This report summarizes current soil and groundwater conditions in terms of the nature and extent of impacts to each medium.
- A draft Focused Feasibility Study (July 2015) has been submitted to the EPA for review. The draft Focused Feasibility Study (FFS) includes a comparative analysis of remedial alternatives for the area within the barrier wall containment system. A final FFS Report will be submitted following receipt of EPA comments on the draft FFS Report and the completion of additional investigation.
- A draft Cultural Resources Survey of the former Thomas A. Edison Inc. buildings on the site has been completed.

## Site Background:

Prior to placement on the Superfund National Priorities List of hazardous waste sites in 2007, the site was sampled and studied by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and a group of parties potentially responsible for the contamination. Previous work also included extensive interim cleanup measures as outlined later in this update. The EPA continues to work with the state and the potentially responsible parties to investigate the nature and extent of contamination at the site while developing and evaluating potential cleanup options.

The Standard Chlorine site is being addressed in two stages: interim actions designed to stop contaminated ground water and surface water from moving to the Hackensack River, and a long-term cleanup based on a comprehensive approach to the entire site.



## Information Repositories

### Kearny Public Library

318 Kearny Avenue

Kearny, NJ 07032

201.998.2666

[admin@kearnylibrary.org](mailto:admin@kearnylibrary.org)

### U.S. EPA Region 2

Superfund Records Center

290 Broadway, 18th Floor

New York, NY 10007-1866

212.637.4308

Or visit the EPA's website:

[http://www.epa.gov/  
region2/superfund/npl/  
standardchlorinechemical](http://www.epa.gov/region2/superfund/npl/standardchlorinechemical)



*Site Investigation: Drilling*



*Geotextile Fabric*



*Sealing Buildings*

## Assessment and Cleanup Milestones

### 1984-1989

Initial site investigations completed. In October 1989, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Standard Chlorine Chemical Co. Inc. (SCCC) entered into an Administrative Consent Order requiring SCCC to plan and implement the following:

- Interim Remedial Measures to prevent potential contact with materials in the lagoon area and to secure damaged tanks and containers
- A Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study
- Selected remedial alternative(s)

### 1991-1993

Remedial Investigation and Interim Remedial Measures were completed, including:

- Installation of security fencing
- Addition of soil to the lagoon berm
- Placement of stabilizing geotextile and rip rap along the Hackensack River shoreline
- Removal of the contents of five above-ground storage tanks
- Repackaging of asbestos-containing material
- Installation of surface covers (geotextile fabric/aggregate or asphalt)

### 1994-2002

Supplemental Remedial Investigations and Site Characterization Activities completed

### 2003-2009

Interim Response Action planning, design and permitting completed

### 2007

Standard Chlorine Site added to the Superfund National Priorities List

### 2008-2009

Phase II Supplemental Remedial Investigation and Pre-Design Investigations completed

### 2010

Removal Action (consisting of the sealing of openings in former process buildings to mitigate the potential transport of wind-borne particulates)

# Assessment and Cleanup Milestones

## 2010-2011

Interim Response Action was implemented, including:

- Physical Barrier Wall System
- Hydraulic Control System (consisting of ground water extraction wells and treatment system)
- Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (DNAPL) Recovery System
- Lagoon Dewatering, Backfilling, and Surface Cover
- Near Shore Sediment Management
- South Ditch Sediment Management and Stormwater Management System Construction
- Consolidation Area Construction
- Wetland and Shoreline Mitigation
- Septic Tank Closure
- Transformer Pad Removal and Remediation
- Site Restoration
- Air Monitoring Activities

## 2010-2012

Building Demolition

## 2012-2015

Interim Response Action Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring. RI/FFS Activities conducted under Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent (Agreement). RI/FFS activities completed to date:

- Site Characterization Summary Report
- RI/FFS Work Plan
- Site Characterization Summary Report Addendum
- Pathway Analysis Report/Memorandum on Exposure Scenarios and Assumptions
- Identification of Candidate Technologies Memorandum
- Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment
- Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment
- Remedial Investigation Report
- Development and Screening of Remedial Alternatives
- Draft Focused Feasibility Study Report

## Ongoing and Future Activities

- Cultural Resources Survey
- Completion of Additional Investigation
- Finalize Focused Feasibility Study
- Prepare Proposed Plan for final remediation
- Continue Interim Response Action maintenance and monitoring



*Barrier Wall*



*DNAPL Recovery Wells*



*Slurry Wall Installation*



*Treatment Plant*